

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The well screen cover of claim 17, wherein the channel is formed to house a fiber optic cable.

5.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A well screen cover, comprising:
a perforated tube; and

b2 a channel ~~formed adjacent~~ having a floor and walls, wherein the floor and walls are defined by the perforated tube and disposed substantially along the length of the perforated tube.

18. (Previously Presented) The well screen cover of claim 17, wherein the tube is formed of a spirally wound strip of metal.

19. (Previously Presented) The well screen cover of claim 17, wherein the channel is defined on an outer surface of the perforated tube.

20. (Currently Amended) The well screen cover of ~~claim 17, wherein~~ claim 30, wherein the channel defines a floor and sidewalls, wherein the floor and the sidewalls are made from the same material as the perforated tube.

21. (Currently Amended) The well screen cover of ~~claim 17, wherein~~ claim 30, wherein the channel is made from a material different from the perforated tube.

22. (Previously Presented) The well screen cover of claim 17, wherein the channel is formed by press braking the channel along the length of the perforated tube.

23. (Previously Presented) The well screen cover of claim 17, wherein the channel comprises an open surface facing radially outward.

24. (Currently Amended) The well screen cover of ~~claim 17, wherein~~ claim 30, wherein the channel defines sidewalls having upper portions coupled to an inner surface of the perforated tube.

25. (Currently Amended) The well screen cover of ~~claim 17, wherein~~ claim 30, wherein the channel defines sidewalls having upper portions welded to an inner surface of the perforated tube.

62 26. (Currently Amended) The well screen cover of ~~claim 17, further~~ claim 30, further comprising at least one support ring disposed along the periphery of an inside surface of the perforated tube.

27. (Previously Presented) The well screen cover of claim 26, wherein the at least one support ring is configured to support the channel and the perforated tube.

28. (Previously Presented) The well screen cover of claim 18, wherein the channel is formed to house a fiber optic cable.

29. (Previously Presented) The well screen cover of claim 28, wherein the channel comprises an open surface facing radially outward.

30. (Currently Amended) A well screen cover, comprising:
a tube having a plurality of perforations disposed therethrough; and
a preformed channel ~~formed on an outer surface of~~ coupled to the tube and disposed substantially along the length of the tube tube, ~~wherein the channel is made from the same material as the tube.~~

Please add the following new claims:

31. (New) The well screen cover of claim 30, wherein the channel is formed to house a fiber optic cable.

32. (New) The well screen cover of claim 30, wherein the tube is formed of a spirally wound strip of metal.

33. (New) The well screen cover of claim 30, wherein the channel comprises an open surface facing radially outward.

34. (New) The well screen cover of claim 32, wherein the channel is preformed to house a fiber optic cable.

63 35. (New) A method of completing a wellbore, comprising:

providing a well screen cover in the wellbore, wherein the cover comprises a perforated tube and a channel having a floor and walls, wherein the floor and walls are defined by the perforated tube and disposed substantially along the length of the perforated tube;

placing a fiber optic cable continuously along an exterior surface of the wellscreen; and

running the fiber optic cable and the well screen cover into the wellbore without substantially damaging the fiber optic cable.

36. (New) A method of completing a wellbore, comprising:

providing a well screen cover in the wellbore, wherein the cover comprises a tube having a plurality of perforations disposed therethrough and a preformed channel coupled to the tube and disposed substantially along the length of the tube;

placing a fiber optic cable continuously along an exterior surface of the wellscreen; and

running the fiber optic cable and the well screen cover into the wellbore without substantially damaging the fiber optic cable.